

THE EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION IN WHICH AN EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OR PRIVILEGE IS CLAIMED ARE DEFINED AS FOLLOWS:

1. A utility knife comprises a handle and a blade holder, said blade holder being pivotally mounted on said handle for movement from an unfolded position to a folded position, said handle having a space adapted to receive at least a portion of said blade holder when the blade holder is in its folded position, said blade holder comprising a main wall and guard wall pivotally mounted on said main wall from an open position to a closed position overlying said main wall, said main wall having means to hold a blade thereon whereby a blade is interposed between said main wall and said guard wall when said guard wall is in its closed position, said blade holder comprises a rear end and a front end, said front end comprising said guard wall and said main wall, said rear end being pivotally mounted to said handle and having upper and bottom edges, said guard wall is pivotally mounted to said main wall on a pivot adjacent the bottom edge of said rear end, a blade lock assembly is mounted for pivotal movement relative to said main and guard

walls from an open position to a closed position overlying the main wall and the guard wall, said blade lock assembly is pivotally mounted on said front end adjacent to said upper edge.

2. A utility knife as set forth in claim 1 wherein said blade lock assembly comprises a u-shaped clip having a top wall and a pair of side walls and wherein said side walls straddle said main wall and a guard wall when a clip is in its closed position.
3. A utility knife as set forth in claim 2 wherein said clip has a front finger extending therefrom.
4. A utility knife as set forth in claim 3 wherein said rear end has a finger knob extending therefrom.
5. A utility knife as set forth in claim 4 wherein said handle comprises a pair of spaced handle halves and wherein said handle has a pivoted lock lever assembly mounted in the said space in the handle and wherein said lock lever assembly has a front arm and a rear arm and a lock finger extending from its front arm.

6. A utility knife as set forth in claim 5 wherein said rear end of the blade holder has a groove therein adapted to receive said lock finger when the blade holder is in its unfolded position.
7. A utility knife as set forth in claim 6 wherein spring means are mounted beneath the rear arm of the lock lever assembly to bias the rear arm upwardly and to bias the front arm downwardly to permit the lock finger to enter the groove, whereby depressing the rear arm against the tension of the spring means will cause the front arm to rise and the lock finger to move out of the groove permitting the blade holder to pivot relative to the handle from an unfolded position to a folded position into the space in the handle.
8. A utility knife as set forth in claim 7, wherein the handle has a notch in its top edge and wherein the rear arm protrudes above the notch whereby depression of the rear arm at the notch permits the front end to be raised upwardly and cause the lock finger to move out of the lock groove.

9. A utility knife as set forth in claim 8, wherein the blade holding means comprise a pair of protrusions on the main wall of the blade holder, said protrusions being adapted to enter corresponding grooves in a blade.
10. A utility knife as set forth in claim 9, wherein inwardly extending pimples are provided on the side walls of said lock assembly to frictionally hold the lock assembly in place.